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**DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

GASTON CAPERTON  
GOVERNOR

1356 Hansford Street  
Charleston, WV 25301-1401

LAIDLEY ELI MCCOY, PH. D.  
DIRECTOR

May 6, 1996

Mr. Jeff Kidwell  
Atlantic Division  
NAVFACENGCOM  
Code 1823  
1510 Gilbert Street  
Norfolk, VA 23511-2699

RE: Allegany Ballistics Laboratory  
Site 1  
Clarification of the North Branch Potomac River classification, NPDES  
mixing zone discharge, and 7-day, 10-year low flow (7Q10)

Dear Mr. Kidwell:

The Office of Waste Management/ Site Investigation and Response (OWM/SIR) has communicated the Navys' request for clarification on the North Branch of the Potomac (NBP) designation as category use A as provided in 46 CSR 1-6 of the Legislative Rules; the potential use of the mixing zone discharge as provided for in 46 CSR 1-5; and the reevaluation of the 7Q10 submitted to the Navy for the NBP river in the area of Site 1 at the Allegany Ballistics Laboratory (ABL), Rocket Center, West Virginia to the Office of Water Resources (OWR).

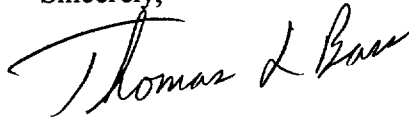
1. In regard to the use categories applicable to North Branch Potomac River, all of the use categories will apply as required by 46 CSR 1 - 7 - 2.d of the West Virginia Legislative Rules: Public water supply - A, Warmwater Fishery - B1, and Water Contact Recreation - C
2. At the Navys' request OWM/SIR discussed the possibility of using the mixing zone discharge requirements provided by 46 SCR 1-5 with the Office of Water Resources.

At this time OWR is currently working with industry to develop procedures and methodologies for mixing zone discharge criteria. Since there no procedures in place the Navy will be required to use the Toxic Pollutant Control Strategies procedure the OWM/SIR provided to the Navy in a correspondence dated April 4, 1996.

3. In the correspondence dated 23 September 1996 to the Office of Water Resources, the Navy provided a request for the 7-day, 10-year low flow for the NBP River adjacent to Allegany Ballistics Laboratory. The OWR, using data from the Luke, Cumberland, and Pinto gaging stations, calculated the 7Q10 for the area in question to be 117.48 cfs. This numeric value will be used by the State in calculating the NPDES discharge requirements for Site 1 groundwater treatment and subsequent discharge.

If there are any questions, or if you require further clarification, please contact me at (304) 558-2745.

Sincerely,



Thomas L. Bass  
Environmental Resource Specialist II  
Office of Waste Management  
Site Investigation and Response

TLB/MS/o

cc: Bruce Beach, EPA  
Wendy Noe, MDE  
Greg Mott, CH2Mhill  
Lou Williams, NAVSEA  
Mark Goodman, NAVSEA  
Dave McBride, Alliant Techsystems